

Sandralyn Bailey

04-312

From: gerardo.higginson@phoenix.gov

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 4:13 PM

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Subject: Arizona Latino Media Association Letter: This disturbing decision will leave a gap in local news programming for the area's growing Spanish-speaking Latino community

October 27, 2006

Mr. Bob Wright
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
NBC Universal
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10012

FILED/ACCEPTED

DEC - 7 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Wright,

On behalf of the Arizona Latino Media Association, I would like to express our group's deep disappointment over your decision to eliminate the Telemundo news operation in Phoenix and Tucson.

This disturbing decision will leave a gap in local news programming for the area's growing Spanish-speaking Latino community and leave many local Telemundo employees without jobs. We are even more troubled to learn that as part of your cost-reduction strategy you are only closing Telemundo stations and none of your English-language affiliates.

In 2004, our group's former president along with other community leaders signed a letter to the Federal Communications Commission asking them to grant Telemundo full-power status here in the Valley. That request was granted and we recently celebrated the launch of this station.

Now this action will leave only a shadow of the current local news operation. As an organization that believes diversity in coverage and the workforce will lead to a stronger, more informed media industry, we at ALMA are skeptical that a small news bureau beaming a limited number of stories to a news hub in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, will serve the needs of our region's Spanish-speaking community.

In 2001 when NBC acquired Telemundo, you stated in written filings that the merger would give Telemundo the resources to compete effectively with Univision, raise the bar on the quality of Spanish-language programming and offer greater career advancement and training opportunities for Telemundo employees. You reaffirmed this commitment to serving the public interest when you sought full-power status for the local Telemundo station.

If you carry out this recently announced restructuring plan, it will be construed as reneging on those promises and reflects bad faith on your part. We urge you to reconsider this decision and make good on your commitment to the local communities of Phoenix and Tucson.

Respectfully,

Jonathan J. Higuera
President, ALMA

Anita Luera
Immediate Past President, ALMA

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From: TRANSLATIONS1 [translations1@qwest.net]

Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 9:56 AM

Subject: Letter of Congressman Ed Pastor to NBC/Telemundo - MB Docket No. 04-312

October 31, 2006

Bob Wright
Vice Chairman and Executive Officer, GE
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, NBC Universal
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10012

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Wright,

I am writing to express my profound concern about the recent NBC Universal/Telemundo corporate decision to eliminate locally-produced Spanish newscasts in six cities from the top ten Hispanic markets in the United States.

I believe a regional broadcast that is not coming from where the news originates would severely limit coverage in those communities. Our Latino and Spanish-speaking communities deserve better. These communities depend on local news information to improve their quality of life and to learn about specific issues that could impact them and their families.

Last year, I did not hesitate to sign a petition letter you provided and sent to the FCC Secretary Marlen H. Dortch supporting the swap to full-power in your Phoenix market Ch. 39. Many local leaders and organizations signed the petition letter in which your corporation specifically stated that if the proposal were granted, you would *"Provide expanded Spanish language news coverage . . . pledged to air one hour of locally produced Spanish language news programming Monday through Friday . . . and (Telemundo) recognized locally produced Spanish language news programming is especially important to the Phoenix viewers."* A copy of this letter is available for your review upon request.

Your proposal was granted and moved to full power Ch. 39 three months ago. Your Phoenix and Tucson newscasts deserve an opportunity for growth and our local viewers need to have complete and extended local news coverage as promised in your FCC proposal. Therefore, without hesitation, I ask you to reverse your decision to eliminate the locally-produced Spanish newscasts in the Phoenix market.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress

Cc: Jeffrey Zucker, Chief Executive Officer, NBC Universal Television Group
Don Browne, President, Telemundo
Ibra Morales, President, Telemundo Station Group
Thelma Abril, Vice President and General Manager Telemundo Arizona

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